

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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S-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY	USSR (Latvian SSR)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Riga-Spilve Airfield	DATE DISTR.	AUG 9 1955 50X1
TYPE OF INFO.	50X1	NO. OF PAGES	2
SOURCE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. During the afternoon of 8 October 1954, photographs were taken of Spilve Airfield, near Riga, in the Latvian SSR. The photographs show the runway, installations at the airfield, and a portion of the aircraft strength. Five jet fighters appear in the foreground on the eastern edge of the airfield, and several other aircraft on the western edge, but there were probably more aircraft than these stationed at Spilve.
2. Between 29 September and 8 October, source heard jet aircraft in groups of two taking off at night between 2200 hours and 2300 hours. Four groups usually took off in succession, so that there were eight aircraft aloft at the same time, and occasionally it seemed that there were more than eight in the air. Source did not observe the arrival of the transport aircraft, which photograph No. 2 shows parked near the control tower.
3. Only one wide runway was observed at the field. It had an estimated length of 2,000 meters and extended approximately from the northwest to southeast. A second and smaller lane possibly extended parallel to the runway.

50X1 [] Comment: Previous reports have indicated that Spilve Airfield had only one runway about 1,800 meters long, and circular taxiways around the entire field.

50X1 [] Comment: The seven photographs taken on 8 October cover nearly all of Spilve Airfield. Photographs Nos. 5 to 7 show some aircraft which appear to be MIG-17s. Photograph No. 7 is an enlargement of a portion of photograph No. 5.

50X1 [] Comment: A set of the photographs discussed in this report has been deposited with CIA Graphics Register, from which photocopies may be obtained.

50X1 Distribution of Attachment:

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